

Claims:

1. A rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of at least one selective 5-HT agonist, at least one spheronization aid and at least one solubility enhancer.
2. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 wherein said composition is incorporated into a plurality of microparticles.
3. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim 2 wherein each microparticle is from about 150 μ m to about 500 μ m in diameter.
4. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim 3 wherein each microparticle is from about 200 μ m to about 250 μ m in diameter.
5. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim 4 wherein said at least one selective 5-HT agonist is selected from the group consisting of sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, rizatriptan, naratriptan, frovatriptan, eletriptan, almotriptan and any combination thereof.
6. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim 5 wherein said at least one selective 5-HT agonist is sumatriptan.
7. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim 6 wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount from about 1% to about 60% by weight of each said microparticle.
8. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount from about 20% to about 50% by weight of each said microparticle.

- 9.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **8** wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount from about 30% to about 40% by weight of each said microparticle.
- 10.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **4** wherein said at least one spheronization aid is selected from the group consisting of distilled monoglycerides, glyceryl behenate, glyceryl palmitostearate, hydrogenated vegetable oils, polyoxyethylene ethers, cetostearyl alcohol, thermo-softening polymers and any combination thereof.
- 11.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **10** wherein said at least one spheronization aid is glyceryl palmitostearate.
- 12.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **11** wherein said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount from about 5% to about 90% by weight of each microparticle.
- 13.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **12** wherein said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount from about 15% to about 75% by weight of each microparticle.
- 14.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **13** wherein said distilled glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount from about 25% to about 45% by weight of each microparticle.
- 15.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **14** wherein said distilled glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of each microparticle.
- 16.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **4** wherein said at least one solubility enhancer is selected from the group consisting of a

macrogol fatty acid ester, poloxamer, polyethylene glycol, polyvinylpyrrolidone, sodium lauryl sulfate, and any combination thereof.

17. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **16** wherein said at least one solubility enhancer is a macrogol fatty acid ester.

18. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **17** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is in an amount greater than from about 0% to about 95% by weight of each microparticle.

19. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **18** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount from about 1% to about 50% by weight of each microparticle.

20. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **19** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of from about 5% to about 35% by weight of each microparticle.

21. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **20** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 5% by weight of each microparticle.

22. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **20** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of each microparticle.

23. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **17** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is selected from the group consisting of Gelucire 50/13, Gelucire 44/14 and any combination thereof.

- 24.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **23** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is Gelucire 50/13.
- 25.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **21** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is Gelucire 50/13.
- 26.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **22** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is Gelucire 50/13.
- 27.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **4** wherein said microparticles are coated with at least one taste-masking coat.
- 28.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **27** wherein the at least one taste-masking coating is comprised of a combination of at least one hydrophobic polymer and at least one hydrophilic polymer.
- 29.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **28** wherein the hydrophobic polymer and hydrophilic polymer is present in a ratio of 7:3 respectively.
- 30.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **29** wherein said hydrophobic polymer is Ethylcellulose E45 and said hydrophilic polymer is Povidone K30.
- 31.** A rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a selective 5-HT agonist sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and a macrogol fatty acid ester.
- 32.** The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **31** wherein said composition is in the form of a plurality of microparticles.

33. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **32** wherein said microparticles are coated with a taste-masking coating.

34. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **33** wherein said sumatriptan is about 30% by weight of each microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is about 65% by weight of each microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is about 5% by weight of each microparticle.

35. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **34** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is Gelucire 50/13.

36. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **33** wherein said sumatriptan is about 30% by weight of each microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is about 35% by weight of each microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is about 35% by weight of each microparticle.

37. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **36** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is Gelucire 50/13.

38. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **35** wherein said microparticles are incorporated into a suitable oral dosage form.

39. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **38** wherein said oral dosage form is selected from the group consisting of a fast-dispersing direct compression non-cushioning matrix tablet, a fast-dispersing direct compression cushioning matrix tablet, a direct compression non-cushioning matrix tablet, a direct compression cushioning matrix tablet, capsule, buccal tablet, and sachet.

40. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **39** wherein said oral dosage form is a fast-dispersing direct compression non-cushioning matrix tablet.

41. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **37** wherein said microparticles are incorporated into a suitable oral dosage form.

42. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **41** wherein said oral dosage form is selected from the group consisting of a fast-dispersing direct compression non-cushioning matrix tablet, a fast-dispersing direct compression cushioning matrix tablet, a direct compression non-cushioning matrix tablet, a direct compression cushioning matrix tablet, capsule, buccal tablet, and sachet.

43. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **42** wherein said oral dosage form is a fast-dispersing direct compression non-cushioning matrix tablet.

44. The use of the rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **1** for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of migraine.

45. The use of the rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **4** for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of migraine.

46. The use of the rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **35** for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of migraine.

47. The use of the rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **37** for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of migraine.

48 An oral dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles coated with at least one taste-masking coating, said microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of at least one selective 5-HT agonist, at least one spheronization aid, and at least one solubility enhancer, and

(b) a non-cushioning matrix,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and said dosage form is adapted to rapidly dissolve in the mouth of a patient.

49. The oral dosage form of claim **48** wherein said non-cushioning matrix comprises at least one linear polyol and/or a lactose or maltose and optionally an inorganic salt, cellulose or a disintegrant or any mixture of an inorganic salt, cellulose or disintegrant.

50. The oral dosage form of claim **49** wherein said linear polyol, and said optional inorganic salt or cellulose are of directly compressible grades.

51. The oral dosage form of claim **50** wherein said linear polyol is selected from the group consisting of powdered mannitol, powdered sorbitol, powdered xylitol, directly compressible mannitol, directly compressible sorbitol, directly compressible xylitol and any combination thereof.

52 The oral dosage form of claim **51** wherein said linear polyol is directly compressible mannitol.

53. The oral dosage form of claim **52** wherein said polyol is present in an amount from about greater than 0% to about 85% by weight of the dosage form.

54. The oral dosage form of claim **53** wherein said polyol is present in an amount from about 20% to about 60 % by weight of the dosage form.

55. The oral dosage form of claim **54** wherein said polyol is present in an amount from about 40% to about 50% by weight of the dosage form.

56. The oral dosage form of claim **49** wherein said optional inorganic salt is selected from the group consisting of powdered calcium carbonate, powdered dibasic anhydrous calcium phosphate, powdered dibasic dihydrate calcium phosphate, powdered tribasic calcium phosphate, powdered dihydrate calcium sulfate, powdered monobasic sodium phosphate, powdered dibasic sodium phosphate, powdered anhydrous magnesium carbonate, powdered alkaline magnesium oxide, directly compressible grades of calcium carbonate, directly compressible grades of dibasic anhydrous calcium phosphate, directly compressible grades of dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate, directly compressible grades of tribasic calcium phosphate, directly compressible grades of calcium sulfate, directly compressible grades of anhydrous magnesium carbonate, directly compressible grades of magnesium aluminum silicate NF, directly compressible grades of alkaline magnesium oxide and any combination thereof.

57. The oral dosage form of claim **56** wherein said optional inorganic salt is directly compressible grades of dibasic calcium phosphate dihydrate.

58. The oral dosage form of claim **57** wherein said optional inorganic salt is present in an amount from about 0% to about 50% by weight of the dosage form.

59. The oral dosage form of claim **58** wherein said optional inorganic salt is present in an amount from about 5% to about 30% by weight of the dosage form.

60. The oral dosage form of claim **59** wherein said optional inorganic salt is present in an amount from about 7% to about 15% by weight of the dosage form.

61. The oral dosage form of claim **49** wherein said optional cellulose is selected from the group consisting of powdered cellulose, powdered silicified microcrystalline, powdered microcrystalline cellulose, directly compressible

grades of silicified microcrystalline cellulose, directly compressible grades of microcrystalline cellulose and any combination thereof.

62. The oral dosage form of claim **61** wherein said optional cellulose is directly compressible grades of microcrystalline cellulose.

63. The oral dosage form of claim **62** wherein said optional cellulose is present in an amount from about 0% to about 40% by weight of the dosage form.

64. The oral dosage form of claim **63** wherein said optional cellulose is present in an amount from about 5% to about 30% by weight of the dosage form.

65. The oral dosage form of claim **64** wherein said optional cellulose is present in an amount from about 10% to about 20% by weight of the dosage form.

66. The oral dosage form of claim **49** wherein said optional disintegrant is selected from the group consisting of crospovidone, croscarmellose sodium, sodium starch glycolate, sodium starch glycolate (crosslinked low substituted), sodium starch glycolate (highly crosslinked), hydroxypropyl cellulose (low substituted), polacrillin potassium, pregelatinized starch, microcrystalline cellulose, and any combination thereof.

67. The oral dosage form of claim **66** wherein said optional disintegrant is crospovidone.

68. The oral dosage form of claim **67** wherein said optional disintegrant is present in an amount from about 0% to about 3% by weight of the dosage form.

69. The oral dosage form of claim **68** wherein said optional disintegrant is present in an amount from about 2% to about 3% by weight of the dosage form.

70. The oral dosage form of claim **69** wherein said optional disintegrant is present in an amount from about 2.5% to about 3% by weight of the dosage form.

71. The oral dosage form of claim **49** wherein said at least one selective 5-HT agonist is selected from the group consisting of sumatriptan, zolmitriptan, rizatriptan, naratriptan, frovatriptan, eletriptan, almotriptan and any combination thereof.

72. The oral dosage form of claim **71** wherein said at least one selective 5-HT agonist is sumatriptan.

73. The oral dosage form of claim **72** wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of from about 1% to about 60% by weight of each microparticle.

74. The oral dosage form of claim **73** wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount from about 20% to about 50% by weight of each microparticle.

75. The oral dosage form of claim **74** wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of from about 30% to about 40% by weight of each microparticle.

76. The oral dosage form of claim **49** wherein said at least one spheronization aid is selected from the group consisting of distilled monoglycerides, glyceryl behenate, glyceryl palmitostearate, hydrogenated vegetable oils, polyoxyethylene ethers, cetostearyl alcohol, thermo-softening polymers and any combination thereof.

77. The oral dosage form of claim **76** wherein said at least one spheronization aid is glyceryl palmitostearate.

78. The oral dosage form of claim **77** wherein said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount from about 5% to about 90% by weight of each microparticle.

79. The oral dosage form of claim **78** wherein said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount from about 15% to about 75% by weight of each microparticle.

80. The oral dosage form of claim **79** wherein said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount from about 25% to about 45% by weight of each microparticle.

81. The oral dosage form of claim **49** wherein said at least one solubility enhancer is selected from the group consisting of a macrogol fatty acid ester, poloxamer, polyethylene glycol, polyvinylpyrrolidones, sodium lauryl sulfate, and any combination thereof.

82. The oral dosage form of claim **81** wherein said at least one solubility enhancer is a macrogol fatty acid ester.

83. The oral dosage form of claim **82** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is in an amount greater than from about 0% to about 95% by weight of each microparticle.

84. The oral dosage form of claim **83** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount from about 1% to about 50% by weight of each microparticle.

85. The oral dosage form of claim **84** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount from about 5% to about 35% by weight of each microparticle.

86. The oral dosage form of claim **85** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 5% by weight of each microparticle.

87. The oral dosage form of claim **85** wherein said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of each microparticle.

88. The oral dosage form of claim **49** wherein said dosage form is incorporated into a tablet.

89. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 65% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 5% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating,

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix.

90. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a blood absorption profile such that after about 0.5 hours at least about 15% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 0.75 hours at least about 35% of the

sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 1 hour at least about 50% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 1.5 hours at least about 70% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 2 hours at least about 80% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 4 hours at least about 90% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, and after about 6 hours at least about 95% of the sumatriptan is absorbed into the blood stream of the patient.

91. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean sumatriptan blood absorption profile as shown in Figure 5A.

92. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration provides a T_{max} from about 1 hour to about 3 hours and a C_{max} of about 15 ng/ml to about 46 ng/ml sumatriptan in the blood after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form to the patient.

93. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration provides a mean T_{max} of about 1.7 hours and a mean C_{max} of about 28 ng/ml sumatriptan in the blood after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form to the patient.

94. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a plasma profile as shown in Figure 4A for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

95. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in

an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating;

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix.

96. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a blood absorption profile such that after about 0.5 hours at least about 20% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 0.75 hours at least about 40% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 1 hour at least about 55% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 1.5 hours at least about 76% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 2 hours at least about 80% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 4 hours at least about 90% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, and after about 6 hours at least about 95% of the sumatriptan is absorbed into the blood stream of the patient.

97. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean sumatriptan blood absorption profile as shown in Figure 7A.

98. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration provides a T_{max} from about 0.75 hours to about 2 hours and a C_{max} of about 14 ng/ml to

about 46 ng/ml sumatriptan in the blood after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form to the patient.

99. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration provides a mean T_{max} of about 1.6 hours and a mean C_{max} of about 27 ng/ml sumatriptan in the blood after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form to the patient.

100. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a plasma profile as shown in Figure 6A for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

101. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits an $AUC_{(0-t)}$ from about 69 ng.hr/ml to about 163 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

102. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean $AUC_{(0-t)}$ of about 109 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

103. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits an $AUC_{(0-inf)}$ from about 70 ng.hr/ml to about 166 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

104. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean $AUC_{(0-inf)}$ of about 112 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

105. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits an $AUC_{(0-t)}$ from about 60 ng.hr/ml to about 165 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

106. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean $AUC_{(0-t)}$ of about 110 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

107. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits an $AUC_{(0-inf)}$ from about 62 ng.hr/ml to about 170 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

108. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean $AUC_{(0-inf)}$ of about 114 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

109. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 65% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 5% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating,

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,

wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a blood absorption profile such that after about 0.5 hours at least about 15% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 0.75 hours at least about 35% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 1 hour at least about 50% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 1.5 hours at least about 70% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 2 hours at least about 80% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 4 hours at least about 90% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, and after about 6 hours at least about 95% of the sumatriptan is absorbed into the blood stream of the patient.

110. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 65% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 5% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating,

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,

wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration provides a T_{max} from about 1 hour to about 3 hours and a C_{max} of about 15 ng/ml to about 46 ng/ml sumatriptan in the blood after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form to the patient.

111. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 65% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 5% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating,

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration provides a mean T_{max} of about 1.7 hours and a mean C_{max} of about 28 ng/ml sumatriptan in the blood after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form to the patient.

112. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 65% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 5% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating,

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of

about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,

wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean sumatriptan blood absorption profile as shown in Figure 5A.

113. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 65% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 5% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating,

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,

wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a plasma profile as shown in Figure 4A for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

114. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and

macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating;

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a blood absorption profile such that after about 0.5 hours at least about 20% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 0.75 hours at least about 40% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 1 hour at least about 55% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 1.5 hours at least about 76% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 2 hours at least about 80% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, after about 4 hours at least about 90% of the sumatriptan is absorbed, and after about 6 hours at least about 95% of the sumatriptan is absorbed into the blood stream of the patient.

115. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating;

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration provides a T_{max} from about 0.75 hours to about 2 hours and a C_{max} of about 14 ng/ml to about 46 ng/ml sumatriptan in the blood after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form to the patient.

116. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating;

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration provides a mean T_{max} of about 1.6 hours and a mean C_{max} of about 27 ng/ml sumatriptan in the blood after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form to the patient.

117. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating;

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits an $AUC_{(0-t)}$ from about 69 ng.hr/ml to about 163 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

118. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating;

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%,

and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean $AUC_{(0-t)}$ of about 109 ng.hr/ml for a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

119. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating;

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a plasma profile as shown in Figure 6A after administration of a 50 mg sumatriptan dosage form.

120. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of

about 30% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating;

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix and wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient in need of such administration exhibits a mean sumatriptan blood absorption profile as shown in Figure 7A.

121. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **89** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient provides a plasma concentration-time curve such that the ratio of the T_{50} of said composition to the T_{50} of Imitrex is less than about 1.

122. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **121** wherein the ratio of the $AUC_{(0-t)}$ of the composition to the $AUC_{(0-t)}$ of Imitrex and the ratio of the C_{max} of the composition to the C_{max} of Imitrex is about 1.

123. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **95** wherein said dosage form when administered to a patient provides a plasma concentration-time curve such that the ratio of the T_{50} of said composition to the T_{50} of Imitrex is less than about 1.

124. The oral fast-dispersing dosage form of claim **123** wherein the ratio of the $AUC_{(0-t)}$ of the composition to the $AUC_{(0-t)}$ of Imitrex and the ratio of the C_{max} of the composition to the C_{max} of Imitrex is about 1.

125. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **9** wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of said microparticle.

126. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **9** wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 40% by weight of each microparticle.

127. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **13** wherein said distilled glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 65% by weight of each microparticle.

128. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **14** wherein said distilled glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of each microparticle.

129. The rapid absorption pharmaceutical composition of claim **14** wherein said distilled glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 25% by weight of each microparticle.

130. The oral dosage form of claim **75** wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 30% by weight of said microparticle.

131. The oral dosage form of claim **75** wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 40% by weight said microparticle.

132. The oral dosage form of claim **79** wherein said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 65% by weight of each microparticle.

133. The oral dosage form of claim **80** wherein said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of each microparticle.

134. The oral dosage form of claim **80** wherein said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 25% by weight of each microparticle.

135. An oral fast-dispersing dosage form comprising:

(a) a plurality of microparticles comprising a rapid absorption composition of an effective amount of sumatriptan, glyceryl palmitostearate, and macrogol fatty acid ester, wherein said sumatriptan is present in an amount of about 40% by weight of a microparticle, said glyceryl palmitostearate is present in an amount of about 25% by weight of a microparticle and said macrogol fatty acid ester is present in an amount of about 35% by weight of a microparticle, said microparticles coated with at least one-taste masking coating,

(b) a non-cushioning matrix comprising mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, and crospovidone, wherein said mannitol is present in an amount of about 45%, said microcrystalline cellulose is present in an amount of about 15%, and said crospovidone is present in an amount of about 2% by weight of said dosage form, and

(c) pharmaceutically acceptable excipients,
wherein said taste-masked coated microparticles are dispersed within said matrix.